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April 4, 1945

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

REGIONAL AAA COMMITTEE
ADOPTS SOULE'S PROPOSAL
FOR '46 PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Meetings of county and community committeemen to develop recommendations for the 1946 Agricultural Conservation Program will constitute one of the most important Northeast AAA activities between

now and next July, according to a decision of the Regional AAA Committee at the March 21 session in Washington, D.C. where, adopted in principle was a proposal outlining a series of county, State, and Regional meetings.

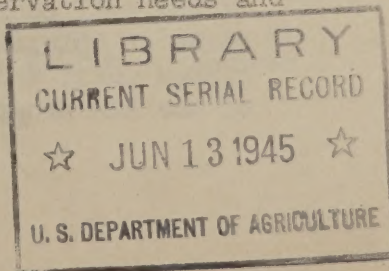
Harris W. Soule, Vermont AAA Executive Assistant, proposed (under JMT) that every county committee call together community committeemen to discuss the county conservation needs and make both specific and general recommendations to the State committee as to the kind, extent, and purpose of soil-building practices they believe should be available through AAA for farmers in 1946. Subsequently, according to Soule's proposal, State committees will develop recommendations for the individual State programs based on these local views. Both State and county committees will necessarily take into account limitations on funds, supplies, and labor, together with production needs, and other factors, many of which are a direct result of wartime necessities.

This much of Soule's proposal was adopted in principle by the Regional committee as a Regional policy since review and approval by the Regional Work Improvement Committee would not be a requirement. The balance of Soule's proposal calling for meetings of State committees with Regional and National AAA officials for review of the State and county recommendations is under consideration by the Regional Work Improvement Committee.

The Regional AAA Committee agreed that State and county committees should complete their 1946 recommendations by August 1 when, if approved, Regional conferences will begin with the objective a 1946 Agricultural Conservation Program for each State approved well in advance of the 1946 program opening date.

Commenting on the plan, Mr. Manchester, Regional Director, and Regional office staff members indicated that the most constructive approach in program development by county and community committeemen would be, first, one of building an "over-all county program" based on total conservation needs estimated in light of probable trends of the more important types of agriculture in the county over a period of years, and second, recommending a 1946 Agricultural Conservation Program which would take into consideration immediate wartime conservation needs and limitations and at the same time make as much contribution as possible toward fulfillment of the longer term "over-all county program."

Since this approach to the problem of program development would require considerable study and preparation, Regional office staff members thought State and county office personnel should make plans for more than one county meeting. Preparation of appropriate facts and related information should be assembled for consideration by committeemen in arriving at both longer term total conservation needs and immediate requirements for 1946.



NEW JERSEY FOLLOWS UP
NEW YORK CONFERENCE
WITH COUNTY MEETINGS

At a series of county discussion meetings led by county chairmen, New Jersey AAA county and community committee-men have reviewed the activities and objectives of the Agency in light of the economic and conservation problems

it has dealt with from the time of its inception during the depression of the early 30's, through current wartime production period.

Recognizing the probable need for adapting AAA programs and policies to postwar agricultural problems, some time was devoted to an examination of anticipated postwar production and consumption of agricultural products, ways and means of maintaining good industrial and agricultural income, future conservation needs, and crop adjustments.

The following press release was issued by Hunterdon County and is descriptive of the other meetings held in the State.

"Farmers Air Opinions on Triple-A Program at County Wide Meetings"

"A good attendance of committeemen and farmers participating in the Hunterdon County Agricultural Conservation Program took part in a lively discussion of various angles of the activities of the Agency at a county-wide meeting held at the Court House, Flemington, last Friday night and conducted by Harold B. Everitt, chairman of the county committee in charge of the local Triple-A program.

"After brief reports by County Conservation Assistants, William McIntyre and Walter Hunt, on the scope of the work carried out under the auspices of the Triple-A and a statement by County Agent D. M. Babbitt of the cooperative efforts of Extension, which he represents, and AAA, a discussion followed.

"State Chairman Charles Collins of Burlington County and Jacob Blakeslee of Sussex County, another member of the State committee, opened the discussion by raising questions about the accomplishments of the Triple-A to date and how it should be directed in the future. The local audience was told that the wishes of local participating farmers were sought and considered in the mapping out of future programs.

"In opening the meeting Chairman Everitt called attention to the fact that many people do not well understand the aims and purposes of the Agricultural Conservation Program and the philosophy back of it. He voiced the opinion that it was of interest to the consumer as well as the farmer since its primary object was that of maintenance of a productive soil. This argument was taken up by Board of Agriculture President Clifford E. Snyder who felt that society in general has an interest in the treatment of the soil, the nation's number one natural resource, and that the time would come when the operator of the farm would be held legally responsible for his method of handling it and the abuse of it would be counted a misdemeanor.

"The discussion brought out that AAA is responsible for soil conservation and crop adjustment. Everyone present seemed to favor the continuation of the soil conservation feature of the program but there was some division of opinion on the crop adjustment feature. The discussion continued until a late hour and the meeting closed with a better understanding of the AAA program and the way it may be used during the postwar period."

AAA STATE EXECUTIVE
ASSISTANTS CONFER IN
WASHINGTON MARCH 20

A one day review, by all State Executive Assistants and the Pennsylvania State Chairman, of a host of questions on administrative procedures and details cleared the way for constructive action during the next few months on many phases of AAA office routine in Regional, State, and county offices.

Conducted by H. L. Manwaring, Assistant Director, the conference centered on such questions as closing dates, useful informational material, soil-building allowance formula, materials transfers between farms, printing of bulletins, administrative and program funds limitations.

All agreed the meeting served a most useful purpose and recommended that such conferences be continued quarterly.

Attending the meeting from State offices were: W. T. Grams, New York; H. E. Propst, New Jersey; W. T. Clark, Connecticut; S. R. Parker, Massachusetts; R. S. Shaw, Rhode Island; E. H. Robinson, New Hampshire; A. K. Gardner, Maine; C. A. Zehner, C. W. Jester, Pennsylvania.

WHEAT CARRY-OVER TO BE
ABOUT SAME AS LAST YEAR

Current estimates indicate that the carry-over of wheat next July 1 into the 1944-45 marketing year will run between 350 and 375 million bushels. This would be slightly above the carry-over of July 1, 1944, and considerably below the carry-over of 632 million bushels in 1942 and 622 million bushels in 1943. Exports of U.S. wheat are expected to increase this year to help feed Europe.

BULK FERTILIZER SHIPPED
TO NORTH CENTRAL FARMERS

Farmers in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and Indiana are receiving superphosphate this spring in bulk shipments instead of in bags.

About 700 tons of superphosphate in 50-ton boxcar loads are being shipped daily from superphosphate plants in Baltimore, Md. There is a shortage of labor to operate bagging machines in the plants.

Farmers unload cars under supervision of AAA committeemen. The fertilizer may either be sacked upon unloading or placed in trucks for immediate spreading. Farmers who decide to furnish their own sacks at unloading will save up to \$3 a ton from the cost of shipping in bags from the plants. The bag-shipment cost would normally be from \$24.40 to \$28 per ton.

A shortage of sulphuric acid used in making superphosphate has resulted in less supply of that fertilizer than was expected earlier. This is because of greatly expanded need for acid in munition manufacture.

LITTLE MEAT GOES
TO LEND-LEASE

Each American last year gave up less than one percent of his beef and veal ration, and 12 percent of his pork through Lend-Lease shipments to our fighting allies, according to testimony of Leo T. Crowley, Foreign Economic Administrator, before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. He denied rumors that any current beef and veal shortages are caused by Lend-Lease. Crowley stated that the U.S. had received about three-fourths as much beef and veal from our Allies in reverse Lend-Lease shipments as we have shipped.

PRICE SUPPORT RAISED
ON DRY EDIBLE BEANS

To encourage a larger acreage of dry edible beans, Economic Stabilization Director Davis has authorized increased price supports on most varieties. The increase will not affect ceiling prices on civilian sales. Increases in support prices per 100 lbs. over those announced Nov. 20, 1944, are 60 cents for Pintos; 40 cents for Red Kidneys; and 25 cents for all other classes except Blackeye beans and peas. Jan. 20, 1945, announcement was made of a proposal to increase support prices on pinto beans by 35 cents a hundredweight, so that recent action represents an additional increase of only 25 cents a hundred pounds on these beans.

The outturn of the 1944 crop of dry edible beans is about 1,000,000 bags less than was indicated last fall when the 1945 price supports were announced and goals were determined. Furthermore, preliminary reports indicate that only 1,971,000 acres of the goal of 2,277,000 acres will be planted this year unless farmers revise their planting intentions.

At the same time, Government requirements for military and relief feeding, although not completely determined as yet, have substantially increased. Beans are expected to serve as an important protein supplement to meat supplies, which are not sufficient to fill greatly expanded demands.

Following is a complete schedule of support prices for dry edible beans per hundred pounds, based on U.S. No. 1 grade beans in carload lots, cleaned and bagged, f.o.b. cars at country shipping points: Light Red Kidney, Dark Red Kidney, and Western Red Kidney, \$8.40; Lima and Baby Lima, \$7.75; Pea, Medium White, Great Northern, Small White, Flat Small White, Pink, Western Cranberry, and Small Red, \$6.75; Cranberry other than Western, \$6.40; California Blackeye, \$6.20; Pinto, \$6.00; Southern Blackeye peas, \$5.75. Support prices for U.S. No. 2 grades of the above varietal types are 15 cents per hundred pounds less than for U.S. No. 1 grades.

AMENDMENTS TO N.Y. MILK
ORDER SUBMITTED TO VOTE

The WFA will submit proposed amendments to the Federal order regulating milk marketing in the New York metropolitan area, to a producer referendum within a few days. Ballots will be distributed to dairy farmers in the six-State (N.Y., Vt., Pa., Mass., Conn., and N.J.) milkshed supplying the New York market by the administrator of the New York order. At the same time, a tentatively approved marketing agreement, embodying the suggested changes in the order, will be offered for signature to milk dealers in the New York area.

The 6 proposed amendments were drawn up by WFA following several public hearings on the order and after consideration of exceptions filed to preliminary amendments by the industry. They are primarily of a technical nature, decision on proposals relating to the farm price of Class 2-B (storage cream and plain condensed milk and Class 3 used in making evaporated milk and milk powders) having been postponed, pending a further study and analysis of the testimony given at the hearings.

Before these proposed amendments may be issued by WFA, they must be approved by at least two-thirds of the eligible producers voting, and a marketing agreement embodying the proposed changes must be signed by at least 50% of the dealers in the New York market. If the required number of dealers fail to sign, the proposed amendments must be approved by the Director of Economic Stabilization.

REGIONAL AAA OFFICE An effort by the Regional AAA office to simplify or
REDUCES NUMBER OF eliminate some of its forty-odd monthly reports required
REPORTS REQUIRED of State and county offices has met with reasonable success.
The reduction came about through an approved work improvement proposal which called for transmittal to States of a monthly report calendar listing all reports required.

Careful scrutiny of the report calendar revealed that most of the reports are required by agencies other than AAA whose programs are administered in the field by AAA. Nothing much could be done to eliminate these reports although some success was achieved in simplifying a few of them or lengthening the reporting interval.

The first report calendar will be sent to States on April 20 covering reports for May and on the 20th of each succeeding month. Its purpose is to serve as a reminder to State offices and a convenient reference.

Revisions in the number of reports to date include:

1. Report of purchase order plan - from semi-monthly to monthly.
2. Tractor tire conversion report - elimination of name and address of person authorized to convert.
3. Motion picture report - from monthly to quarterly.
4. Egg price report eliminated
5. Reconciliation of allotment ledger with New York Disbursing Office eliminated.

COMMITTEE ON PRICE The committee named at the March 21 meeting of the
SUPPORT MEETS IN N.Y. Northeast Regional AAA committee to cooperate with
Commodity Credit Corporation in making price supports effective, met Wednesday, April 4, in New York City with representatives of the Office of Supply, CCC. The Northeast committee included the following chairmen of State AAA committees: J. Ralph Graham of New Hampshire representing Southern New England; Charles A. Collins, New Jersey; Robert J. Howard, New York; and Clyde A. Zehner, Pennsylvania. Director A. W. Manchester and R. E. Moody, Chief of the Economics Section, represented the Regional office at the meeting.

FOREST SERVICE TO Most of us "can't see the trees for the woods" when we look
USE AAA PHOTOS at aerial photographs -- to reverse an old saying -- but
Forest Service experts are able to count trees and estimate height and age from what they see on ordinary aerial photographs. An agreement has been reached between Forest Service and AAA whereby the latter will make available aerial photographs in State AAA offices, providing the State committee approves. The purpose is to assist Forest Service in a National forestry reappraisal project.

The type of ownership of forest resources will also be surveyed. For this, photographs on file in certain county association offices will be made available. Samples will be drawn from selected counties in Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island, according to a second agreement between the agencies covering this phase of Forest Service's work.

AAA is to be reimbursed for any expense incurred in connection with these agreements.

WINTER RATES CONTINUE
THRU APRIL FOR DAIRY
PRODUCTION PAYMENTS

Continuation of winter production payment rates on whole milk through April should help keep dairy production high to meet continued large military and domestic demands. The Government production payments on whole milk had been scheduled to drop 35 cents a hundredweight on April 1 until it was announced that the winter rates would continue for another month.

However, the special drought payments of 10 cents a hundredweight, begun last summer, were discontinued effective April 1. Continuation of the winter payment rates for whole milk was made because of higher prices for hay and labor.

The dairy production payment program, started in October, 1943, has done much to stimulate milk and butterfat production without breaking the price stabilization line. Milk output for January and February this year was the highest on record for the two-month period. Indications are that the peak 1945 month for production may come in May instead of the normal month of June.

FIVE NORTHEAST STATES
TO LIQUIDATE POTATO
LOANS BY APRIL 30TH

Two Northeast States, Connecticut, and New Jersey, have completely liquidated potato loans made under the 1944 loan program leaving Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, and Pennsylvania with outstanding loans

maturing April 30, 1945. A Regional report as of the middle of March shows a total amount loaned of \$6,786,496.91 and \$3,140,846.17 repaid. A summary by States follows:

State	No. of Loans Made	No. of Loans Repaid	Cwt. of U.S. No. 1's		Cwt. U.S. No. 2's & 1B's	
			Under Loan	Released	Under Loan	Released
Conn.	5	5	12,113.5	12,113.5	2,118.0	2,118.0
Me.	840	538	4,416,388.4	1,248,101.9	358,170.3	13,090.4
Mass.	17	16	59,399.0	50,331.0	14,962.0	13,968.0
N.H.	13	6	34,560.3	17,251.9	3,983.1	1,910.5
N.J.	3	3	0	0	11,996.5	11,996.5
N.Y.	111	33	199,640.8	33,456.2	39,966.9	6,825.6
Pa.	233	124	105,691.4	65,794.5	40,485.3	17,252.5
Total	1222	725	4,827,723.4	1,427,049.0	471,682.1	67,161.3

LANCASTER COUNTY, PA.
SELECTED FOR TRIAL
TOBACCO CROP INSURANCE

Sample data from Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, have been reviewed by FCIC and appear to be adequate to offer trial crop insurance on tobacco grown in this county in 1945. The offer is made, however, on the

basis that listing of data is properly completed and approved by April 20, 1945.

A choice of two insurance plans will be offered, one insuring up to 75 percent of the average yield and quality, and the other insuring up to 75 percent of the average investment in the crop. Producers will be protected against virtually all unavoidable hazards, such as drought, floods, hail, insect damage, and fire. The insurance becomes effective at the time of transplanting, and extends through the growing season until the tobacco is weighed in at the warehouse. Growers must file application before planting, and not later than the FCIC closing date.

DODD CALLS FOR MORE
MEAT CHICKEN PRODUCTION

The necessity for increased meat chicken production should be brought to the attention of farmers by AAA committeemen, writes N.E. Dodd, Chief, to Division Directors. Mr. Dodd's memorandum follows:

"Here are some meat facts:

"Civilian consumption of red meats in 1944 was 147 pounds per capita. Probable amount available for 1945 will be no more than 126 pounds.

"Civilian consumption of chicken in 1944 was 24 pounds. Presently in sight for 1945 -- 20 pounds per capita.

"Military purchases are currently taking practically all of the broilers in the four great commercial producing areas and all of the canned chicken. Military requirements in 1945 will total 670 million pounds.

"The above facts clearly indicate that there will be less meat of both kinds available for civilians this year than last and that need is great. One of the quickest means of adding to this meat supply is to increase the number of chickens raised for meat. Farmers can raise extra broods of chickens this spring and have them available for market before the usual fall supply of red meats goes to market. There appear to be adequate brooder-houses and other production facilities to substantially increase the number of chicks raised for meat.

"The national ceiling price on broilers, friers, and roasters will be advanced an average of 1.3 cents per pound on July 1.

"The War Food Administration has contacted hatcheries to encourage them to expand their hatching operations this spring to provide the extra chicks needed for marketing for meat as early as possible next summer.

"The fullest possible use of the AAA committeemen organization should be made to get this information to farmers and to encourage them to raise additional chicks for meat purposes.

"It is, therefore, requested that you take whatever action is necessary to get this information to all county and community committeemen and ask them to discuss this situation with their neighbors."

DELEGATES ATTEND WASHINGTON
MEETING ON CROP INSURANCE

Representatives from several eastern States met in Washington on March 29 and 30 to review the 1946 winter wheat crop insurance program with officials of the FCIC. Attending from the two Northeast States represented were: Robert J. Howard, New York AAA chairman; L. P. Draper, New York AAA administrative officer; Clyde A. Zehner, Pennsylvania AAA chairman; and Willis B. Bergey, Pennsylvania administrative assistant.

This is the first of six meetings to be held throughout the country after which recommendations from the various States will be considered for drafting into the final program.

LAKES GRAIN SHIPPING OFF TO EARLY START Grain movements on the Great Lakes this year got off to a good start on March 27. On this earlier-than-usual opening date, two ships of Canadian registry passed through the Soo Straits en route to Fort William, Ontario. The ships went up without cargo to bring out grain destined for terminals on the lower Lakes.

New ice-breakers which can plow along at a 10-knot speed are partially responsible for the early start in navigation.

The early start will help move a prospective staggering total of 340 million bushels of grain during the season. The total expected to be moved this year compares with 291 million bushels in 1944, 185 million bushels in 1943, and 114 million bushels in 1942. The increase is due to heavy demands for feed grain in 1945 and 1944, and for grain for liberated countries in 1945.

CIVILIANS EATING MORE EGGS Civilian consumption of eggs so far this year is running about 10 percent above the same weeks last year. If the increased rate continues consumption for 1945 may approach 375 to 385 eggs a person compared with 349 a person in 1944.

To insure an adequate supply of eggs for the armed forces throughout the year, representatives of the egg industry and WFA recently discussed plans for purchasing eggs during the flush production season for future delivery and also for the use of purchasing priorities.

In a move to encourage free movement of ungraded eggs, the OPA has approved the selling of eggs at the farm at the delivered ceiling price if the buyer wants to pick them up at the farm. This will permit buyers to cut across price zones and buy eggs at the ceiling price for the zone where the farm is located.

AGRICULTURAL PRICES Parity prices of farm products reached a new 25-year high on March 15. Prices received by farmers declined 1 point during the month ended March 15 to 198 percent of their 1909-14 average, and averaged 114 percent of parity, down two points from a month earlier. Increases in prices of articles purchased by farmers for production and for family living raised the parity index (prices paid, interest and taxes) from 172 on February 15 to 173 on March 15. A year ago, the parity index was 169.

* * *

---1944 Agricultural Conservation Program payments certified as of March 24 by State certifying officers have been reported to the Regional office as follows: Maine, \$7,817.45; Massachusetts, \$37,900.13; New York, \$5,045.86; New Jersey, \$384,742.11; Pennsylvania, \$89,574.31; total, \$525,079.86.

(AAA - NE - Agriculture in Action -- issued weekly and distributed in Northeast to State committeemen, State executive assistants, and farmer fieldmen)

Radio Transcription
A. W. Manchester, Director
Northeast Division, AAA, WFA
April 5, 1945 - 6:15 a.m.
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.

MILK PRODUCTION IS IMPORTANT

One of the most important assembly lines in this country, from the standpoint of the war, is made up of the 18 million or more cows that are lined up every morning and evening to yield over the year 120 billions or so pounds of milk.

That job of milking those 18 million cows is getting a little harder month by month. The milkers are growing fewer. They are made up more and more of older men, women, and of children. And the cows have been growing -- but have about stopped -- growing more numerous.

What has happened, and is likely to happen, along that line of cows is significant news to the war and even more to the peace that will decide whether or not -- or how well or badly -- the war will be won.

We won't have a good peace without healthy people here and abroad. We won't have healthy people unless we have enough milk -- enough for all, but especially enough for babies and mothers and growing children.

What's the situation and the outlook?

As I just indicated, we have more cows over two years old than we have ever had -- over 27 and 3/4 millions -- over 18 millions of them milking -- the rest dry or not yet of milking age. The number has increased over 3 and 1/4 millions since 1938, with the big increases coming from 1940 to 1943. The rate of increase has dropped in the last year. It looks now as if the increase were over for the present.

There is, of course, a reason why we have stopped increasing the number of cows kept. That reason is largely that our cattle have caught up with our grass. We can increase the pasture and hay produced in the country, can increase it a good deal, but it will take time and we can't feed the cows now on the grass we intend to raise in 1950 or '60.

Of course, there are places where some grass is still wasted, but taking the country as a whole, our cattle and sheep are as many as it is safe to count on having enough forage for.

That means that if we are going to produce any more milk, we shall have to do it by getting more per cow.

American farmers have been stepping up production that way. The long-time possibilities are great, but for the year ahead, whether we increase, or just hold our own or fall back a little will depend mainly on what kind of a season we have. It's an abnormally early season just now. Early pasturage seems sure. The spring flush of milk should come early. But what will come after that is mostly a matter of weather.

If April and May and early June prove fairly cool, with a good deal of rain, and no serious droughts develop in midsummer, we could set new records.

Now -- let's talk about the uses we are making of our milk!

One of the most amazing happenings in the field of food consumption has been the increase in the sales of milk and cream in this country. Since the start of the war they have gone up almost a third. And that, in the fact of quotas and the elimination of whipping cream.

It's a splendid development. If we keep up the habit of using all that milk after the war it will mean a lot to American health -- and American dairymen.

Of course, it has the effect of leaving less for manufactured dairy products. But in spite of this, the production of a good many dairy products has increased sharply, too.

Cheese and evaporated milk and dry whole milk -- it is estimated -- will be up around 20 percent this year over 1941. Powdered skim milk will nearly double.

This is all to the good. These things are needed for our armed forces, particularly those abroad, our allies and the liberated peoples, as well as for the civilians at home.

The expanded quantities aren't enough -- can't possible be enough to meet the needs. But they are making an indispensable contribution.

There has been one war casualty. Everybody knows what it is. It's butter.

We couldn't expand our use of fresh milk and increase those manufactured products like cheese and evaporated milk that preserve about all the food in milk, and at the same time, have as much left for butter, which utilizes only a part of the food value.

So, butter production has dropped. It's gone down nearly 25 percent since 1941.

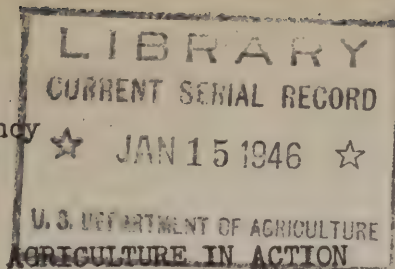
Civilian supplies appear likely to be down even more.-- substantially more -- perhaps as much as 40 percent.

Well, I guess we civilians would choose to have it that way. We like our butter -- plenty of it. But if it's going to be scarce, we'd rather the boys had enough -- and especially the wounded -- our boys and our allies' boys.

That's about the dairy picture as it stands just now.

Any dairy farmer, as he drags his half-rested body out of bed at 4 or 5 in the morning to start again on that line of cows, can know -- if he can get that much awake -- that he is rendering a vital service.

WAR FOOD ADMINISTRATION
Agricultural Adjustment Agency
Northeast Division
Washington 25, D. C.



April 11, 1945

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Ad 4 Agr
JONES STRESSES NEED
FOR REACHING GOALS

In a public statement to farmers, War Food Administrator Marvin Jones reaffirms the importance of farm production this year in line with the 1945 goals -- the most practical balanced for 1945.

Prospective plantings in general are close to the high goal levels and most of the major crops will be planted in the quantity needed. To fulfill all requirements, however, special effort is required.

Recent food actions to help farmers obtain maximum production include: Higher producers' ceiling prices on poultry, additional subsidy payments on livestock slaughtered at packing plants, increased price supports for dry beans, continuation of winter rates for dairy production payments through April, and formal announcement of guaranty purchase plan for fruit and vegetable canners.

USDA GETS SURPLUS LAND DISPOSAL JOB Responsibility for the disposal of surplus agricultural and forest lands has been assigned to the Department of Agriculture by the recently organized Surplus Property Board in its first directive, known as Regulation No. 1.

Disposition of grazing and mineral lands was assigned to the Department of the Interior, while disposal of real properties intended for housing developments and industrial uses will be handled by the National Housing Agency and the Federal Works Agency, respectively. The regulations, however, are flexible enough to permit any of the disposal agencies to dispose of specific tracts of surplus lands, regardless of classification, if the Board considers such action advisable.

Farm machinery, trucks and other so-called "consumer" goods will be sold by the Treasury Department, while the Reconstruction Finance Corporation will handle disposition of "capital" and "producers" goods. The War Food Administration will continue to distribute surplus foods.

STARCH DIVERSION PROGRAM APPROVED FOR MAINE Off-condition U.S. No. 1, size B and U.S. No. 2 potatoes in Maine may be sold to starch factories at a flat rate of \$1.50 per barrel under a diversion program approved this week by Commodity Credit Corporation. The starch program which is limited in participation to borrowers under the potato loan program will help prevent waste and contribute to much needed starch production.

Maine starch factories have currently been operating at about 40% of their 35,000-barrels-per-week capacity. The program is expected to increase the current operating rate substantially.

Not yet announced is an expected mileage payment to borrowers who have a hauling distance to the starch factory in excess of the distance to the shipping point designated in their potato loan chattel mortgage.

SYNCHRONIZED SPOT SALES The Office of Surplus Property, Procurement Division,
OF SURPLUS DESCRIBED U.S. Treasury, has announced the "synchronized spot
 sales" method covering sales of surplus construction
equipment and farm machinery.

The plan provides for "sales on the spot" after preliminary inspection of equipment by assembled bidders. "The bidders then and there, as each item is called, submit written bids for each item. The highest bid is then and there determined and awarded, contracts are signed and full payment made on the spot," according to the announcement.

On the same day of each month synchronized spot sales will be scheduled within the same region.

State AAA offices in New England will receive from the Boston Regional Office of Procurement a catalogue of a sale to be held at Newton Upper Falls, Mass., May 7. Very little farm machinery is offered at this sale, however.

Treasury Procurement's announcement indicates monthly sales on the first Monday of each month in Region I and on the first Thursday of each month in Region II.

PRIORITY PURCHASE Running behind procurement schedules, the Army and the War
PLAN STEPS UP Shipping Administration have started to use a priority
GOV'T EGG BUYING plan for buying shell eggs. The military requirements are
 for about 7 million cases of high grade eggs to be oil-
processed to improve keeping quality. This quantity is in addition to dried
egg requirements which are expected to be at least as much as last year.

The priority purchase plan will be effective as long as needed and buying is expected to be spread generally over the country. A similar plan of purchasing may be used later for frozen eggs.

TURKEY AGAIN FOR Purchase of turkey for the holiday dinners of the U.S.
THE ARMED FORCES armed forces is underway in 23 States requiring set-aside
 of all turkeys marketed in the restricted area. The pro-
curement plan under a War Food Order is about the same as in 1944 but has been
started earlier this year to include hen turkeys normally marketed in April,
May, and June, as well as turkeys marketed in the late summer and the fall.

Record production of about 515 million pounds of turkeys in 1945 is expected compared with 507 million pounds last year. Civilians are expected to have 3.3 pounds per capita this year compared with 3.1 pounds per capita consumed in 1944.

Turkeys produced and marketed in all Northeast States may be sold without restrictions.

* * *

---Pennsylvania AAA committees sponsored 41 showings of motion pictures during March to a total audience of more than 5000 adults and students.

BAE REPORTS ON FEED SITUATION If farmers carry out their intentions as indicated on March 1, the combined acreage of the four feed grains in 1945 will approximate 163 million acres, a decrease of about 1.5% from the 1944 acreage, but 5% more than the 1939-43 average. Production of the four feed grains on such an acreage would total about 119 million tons if yields are average. A substantial increase in feed grain reserves is in prospect for the end of the current season compared with last.

Production of some byproduct feeds since October has been smaller than in the corresponding period a year earlier. Distribution of the principal kinds of oilseed cake and meal during the calendar year 1944 totaled almost 6 million tons, of which soybean cake and meal accounted for about 57%, cottonseed cake and meal 27%, linseed cake and meal, 14.5%, and peanut cake and meal 1.5%.

CIVILIANS TO GET MORE GAS AFTER V-E DAY Petroleum Administrator for War Harold L. Ickes said this week an additional 100,000 to 200,000 barrels of gasoline a day — sufficient to provide possibly as much as 50 percent more than at present to civilian motorists — may be available after the defeat of Germany if military requirements do not markedly increase above present estimates.

OPA is ready to increase gasoline rations just as rapidly as additional supplies for passenger car use are made available with particular reference to A. and B book holders, according to Administrator Chester Bowles.

MILK MARKETING QUOTAS REVISED WFA has increased some milk marketing quotas and removed others on dairy products to make the best possible use of milk during the spring flush in production. Growing war requirements make maintenance of marketing limitations a necessity even during peak production, WFA says, announcing that representatives of milk producers and handlers have approved this decision.

Specific changes made by WFA in the milk conservation plans include:

1. Removal of sales quotas for buttermilk, flavored milk drinks and similar milk by-products; permitting marketing agents to allow sufficient sales increases to assure full use of the skim milk from which these products are made.
2. Authorization for marketing agents to increase fluid milk sales quotas during May and June, make limited adjustments in cream sales quotas, and permit as much butterfat to be sold in cream as was sold in June 1943. Currently, cream sales are limited to 90 percent of the quantity sold in this month for most of the 128 metropolitan areas under the WFA milk marketing program.

WFA emphasizes that established quotas must be strictly observed because civilian buying of milk and dairy products is at an all-time peak and further increases would further decrease civilian supplies of creamery butter, cheese, evaporated milk and such products.

GROWER SUPPORT PRICES FOR SNAP BEANS FOR CANNING INCREASED To encourage further production the WFA has increased the grower support price of snap beans for canning to \$91 per ton from a previously announced national average of \$85. The new price, on a national-average basis, restores all of the \$6 per ton decrease (compared with 1944 announced February 14, 1945).

With minor exceptions, the new prices for all varietal types of snap beans are equal to or higher than the comparable 1944 prices. Prices are established on the basis of varietal types with price differentials favoring those producing better quality for canning. The program provides for all purchases of pole varieties to be on a graded basis at grade prices to be announced by State Agricultural Conservation committees. The new field-run area schedule of snap beans grower support prices by varietal types, effective on May 1, 1945, are given below for States in the Northeast Region.

States	Pole Varieties 1/	Bush Varieties		
		Refugees (Green & Wax)	Rounds 2/ & all wax 3/	Flats and Black Seed Round 4/
		Dollars Per Ton 5/		
Penna.	105.00	97.50	92.50	85.00
New Jersey	105.00	97.50	90.00	90.00
Me., N.H., Vt.,				
Mass., R.I., Conn.	105.00	95.00	90.00	90.00
New York	105.00	110.00	100.00	90.00

1/ All poles shall be purchased on a graded basis as announced by State agricultural conservation committees.

2/ Except black-seeded varieties and Refugees 3/ Except Refugees.

4/ Except Wax. 5/ Price basis; Delivered at canneries or to customary assembly points.

NO EASING OF FATS AND OILS SITUATION EXPECTED No easing of the present tight situation in fats and oils is in prospect. Production from domestic materials in 1945 is expected to total about 9.8 billion pounds compared with 10.9 billion pounds in 1944. Most of the decrease will be in lard. Supplies of butter for civilians in recent months have been at the lowest level in many years. This has been reflected in an increased consumption of margarine. Tax-paid withdrawals of margarine for consumption in the U.S. have been over 50 million pounds each month since last September and in January amounted to 59 million pounds.

Despite the recent set-aside order on lard, WFA purchases of lard in February and early March continued relatively small. With large war and relief requirements, no improvement in the lard situation for the country as a whole is anticipated before next fall at least.

TINPLATE FOR PACKING CROPS IS ASSURED Growers and processors of vegetables have been assured by WFA that there will be enough supplies of tinplate to pack 1945 crops called for in the vegetable goals which aggregate 5 percent larger than last year. The use of cans for non-food items and certain foods available in fresh form has been curtailed because of the current steel shortage.

LUMBER MORE "CRITICAL" Unprecedented total requirements of 40 billion board feet of lumber and 16 million cords of pulpwood for war and essential civilian needs is the production goal for 1945, according to the Forest Service, USDA. The 1944 goal was 34 billion feet of lumber and 14 million cords of pulpwood. Lumber stocks in the U.S. have fallen from 18 billion board feet in 1941 to 6 billion on hand today. There are an estimated 1200 military uses for wood, half of them connected with the making of various types of boxes and crates for guns, planes, tanks, shells, or ammunition. Farmers can help enormously by harvesting their own timber, by assisting neighbors, or by working in the woods for a contractor in spare time.

DAIRY PRODUCTION PAYMENT DRAFT VALID ONLY 90 DAYS Supplies of a revised Commodity Credit Corporation sight draft for dairy production payments will be forwarded shortly to AAA State offices for distribution to county offices. The new drafts will be honored only within 90 days from the issue date.

State and county offices have been requested to make use of the old type drafts before using the revised form.

LATEST TABLE ON PARITY PRICES As of March of, national average prices received by farmers exceeded parity prices for oats, potatoes, and dry beans, as well as for livestock and livestock products generally. Following is a comparison for major farm commodities:

PARITY PRICES FOR FARM PRODUCTS AND AVERAGE U.S. PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS

Commodity and Unit			Average U.S. Price		Parity Price	
			Mar. 15, '44	Mar. 15, '45	Mar. 15, '45	
Wheat	bu.	dol.	1.46	1.48	1.53	
Corn	bu.	dol.	1.14	1.07	1.11	
Oats	bu.	dol.	.793	.740	.690	
Barley	bu.	dol.	1.10	1.04	1.07	
Potatoes	bu.	dol.	1.37	1.71	1.25	
Beans, dry edible	cwt.	dol.	6.10	6.25	5.83	
Hogs	cwt.	dol.	12.90	14.00	12.60	
Beef cattle, cw	cwt.	dol.	12.00	12.30	9.38	
Butterfat	lb.	ct.	51.1	50.7	46.2	
Milk, wholesale	cwt.	dol.	3.26	3.24	2.73	
Chickens, live	lb.	ct.	23.8	25.0	19.7	
Eggs	doz.	ct.	30.1	33.1	31.2	

* * *

---Net certifications for payments under the 1944 Agricultural Conservation Program, as reported March 31 by Northeast State certifying officers, totaled \$602,150.03 and compares with \$525,080 certified as of March 24. Payments for five Northeast States were certified as follows: Maine, \$14,418.34; Massachusetts, \$40,474.02; New York, \$8,475.32; New Jersey, \$450,166.55; Pennsylvania, \$88,615.80

* * *

---Twenty-six New York counties, four in New Jersey, and twenty-three counties in Pennsylvania have been added to the list under the Forest Service-AAA agreement for use of aerial photographs in AAA county offices.

TRACTOR TIRE CONVERSION Because of heavy military demands for tires and
QUOTAS NOT TO BE INCREASED the current shortage of carbon black and other
 components, relatively few tractor tires will be
 produced for civilian requirements, including conversions, during the second
 quarter. This means that most of the tires for replacements and conversions
 must come from tires already produced and in inventory. Many of these tires
 are in dealers' hands.

What the production picture will be in the third quarter cannot yet be deter-
 mined. Therefore, in order to have tires available for replacement purposes
 during the third and fourth quarters, conversion quotas cannot safely be
 increased at this time.

Below is an outline of the tractor tire inventories, production, and require-
 ments through the second quarter of 1945 for tires larger than 7.50:

Inventory in hands of dealers, Jan. 1, 1945 (OPA inventory)	77,110	
Inventory in hands of manufacturers, mass distributors, and manufacturers' outlets, Jan. 1, 1945	<u>111,244</u>	
Total inventory available Jan. 1, 1945		188,354

Production during first quarter for civilian replacements	82,285	
Tires rationed by OPA during first quarter-March estimated	<u>65,500</u>	
Balance after rationing		16,785
Total inventory available April 1, 1945 for rationing		<u>205,139</u>

Projected production during second quarter 1945 for civilian replacement	25,000	
Tires estimated to be rationed by OPA - April, May, June	<u>90,000</u>	
Balance after rationing		-65,000
Inventory estimated July 1, 1945		<u>140,139</u>

RISE IN SHORT-TERM Farmers' short-term debt to commercial banks and
FARM DEBT HOLDS DANGERS Government agencies (excluding CCC non-recourse loans)
 increased 20 percent, from 1.5 to 1.8 billion dollars,
 between July 1, 1939, and July 1, 1944. While this increase is small compared
 with the 144 percent rise in farmers' short-term loans from commercial banks
 between the spring of 1914, and the end of 1920, some trends are developing
 which may cause trouble.

Agricultural economics point out that the danger period is likely to come during
 the first year or two after the war. Prices may stay high for a time, and it
 will be easy to go into debt. Farm buildings, fences, and machinery will need
 repair or replacement, and such goods as automobiles, radios, washing machines,
 and refrigerators will again be available. During this period, farmers should
 avoid contracting too heavy short-term debts. Sometime after the war, farm
 prices are likely to go below their present levels. Credit obtained at a high
 price level is hard to repay at a lower one.

* * *

(AAA - NE - Agriculture in Action - issued weekly and distributed in Northeast
 to State Committeemen, State Executive Assistants, and farmer fieldmen)

Radio Transcription
A. W. Manchester, Director
Northeast Division, AAA, WFA
April 12, 1945 - 6:15 a.m.
Station WBZ - Boston, Mass.

A LITTLE LIGHT IN THE EAST

A report which Mr. Byrnes, who resigned a few days ago from the position of Director of War Mobilization and Reconversion, submitted a short while ago contains significant statements as to what farmers, as well as consumers, can look forward to.

Within three months after victory in Europe, the report states, deliveries of munitions will be reduced 15 to 20 percent, and the reduction will amount to 40 percent within 12 months. This is with the war against Japan still going full blast.

Through 1944 -- and I presume, up to now -- 45 percent of our total production effort was for war. So it is clear that a reduction of 15 to 20 percent in munitions production could add almost that much to civilian production.

Of course, there probably will be some inevitable delay in making the transfer, and some of the cut will take the form of reduced overtime and some of those who are war workers for patriotic reasons will stop work entirely. But, after allowing for these things, there still ought to be a real increase in production for civilian use.

If the increases are centered on critical items like farm machinery, as would seem reasonable, present difficulties could fade pretty fast. Farm machinery is allocated only a little over a million of the 70 million tons of processed steel produced annually in this country. Shifting only a little of the total that will no longer be required for munitions to farm machinery could really relieve the farmers' machinery headache.

To make this cut in munitions production possible, Mr. Byrnes says all usable equipment no longer required in Europe will be shipped to the Pacific war theater.

The reduction in munitions manufacture may, of course, throw a good many people out of jobs. But the Byrnes report forecasts that those people who want to work will be absorbed pretty rapidly in civilian production jobs.

Just how much relief of their labor difficulties farmers can hope for from this cut in munitions making is a matter of speculation. A good many farm leaders doubt whether many of these munitions workers will be going back to the farm, at least right away. Very likely they are right.

On the other hand, it is true that if there is any change in farm labor, it has to be for the better. It is also true that even a little improvement in the number of available farm workers could help the present tight situation a whole lot.

For instance, farmers agree that the labor situation this year is worse than last. Yet, by latest reports, the number of farm workers decreased less than two percent in a year's time. In a good-sized shift from war work to peace work, such as the report implies, it seems as though there couldn't help being a few workers who would return to farming.

There is no reason to expect the farm labor situation to be good, but it ought to grow a little less bad after V-E day.

As to transportation, the report doesn't indicate any immediate relief in either truck or passenger car transportation. The truck problem grows daily more serious for farmers.

A very big part of all the farm products goes to market in trucks, and most farm supplies go to the farm in the same trucks. Apparently, we shall have to wait a while longer for new trucks -- and hold our breath while we wait for fear the old truck will give out, finally and fatally.

As for the gas supply, Mr. Byrnes offers hope that it might get a little -- just a little, but still a little -- better.

The end of the war doesn't promise any immediate cut in the needs for food. Something will depend on how much food Europe will succeed in raising this year. The course of the war during the next month or two might make some difference in that. But, whatever happens, it seems now that all we can raise in this country -- and then some -- will be needed.

Looking the situation in the face, Mr. Byrnes forecasts that we shan't eat as well as we are accustomed to -- as a matter of fact, as well as we did last year -- but we won't go hungry and our diet will be nourishing.

We can even have some left over with which to give some relief to the stricken areas in other countries.

I don't know how it affects others, but the Byrnes report makes me feel a little more cheerful. I seem to see the first sure promise of the dawn after a long and a terribly cold night.

April 18, 1945

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

THE UNFINISHED WORK Here in Washington, as in all the country, there is one common resolve. It is voiced a thousand times, wherever men of good will speak or write of how to go forward without the leadership that had become our implicit reliance.

It is the determination to carry on -- to finish, so far as is possible in human affairs -- the unfinished work.

It is a time of trying to see clearly what that unfinished work is, in order that the task may not be fumbled.

In the little part that agriculture has to perform of that whole task of adjusting our human ways of doing things so as to realize the possibilities of the changed world into which we have moved, it is necessary that we, too, see clearly.

What are our unfinished tasks?

How do we go on, for instance, with "the conquest of fear" on the farms of America?

Clearly, the building of security on the farm requires, first of all, the further development, the extension to the still unprotected fields, and the solid entrenchment of the ways of preventing the recurrence of periods of poverty-breeding prices. Against these the individual is helpless. He hopelessly watches his struggles fail, his savings swept away, and those he would protect suffer want and deprivation.

Those times need never come again. That they shall not, is now our task -- all of us who remain and are men of good will.

There is another farm fear that must be conquered -- one more security -- to broaden and establish. That is security against the worst of the calamities caused by the forces of nature -- some of them beyond the control of individual farmers, some beyond the control of men banded together. Flood control, drought protection, crop insurance -- in such ways security can be provided. The work has been well begun, but just begun.

Then there is security for those who toil on the land, often without ownership -- security for full medical care and protection in illness, and security for an old age that is worthy and in accord with human dignity. An old age protected by a well earned and well deserved retirement system, not blighted and degraded by the threat of dependence on charity. The gate to this field has been opened, but the plowing has scarcely begun.

It is in ways like this that "freedom from fear" will find its realization on the farm. But "freedom from fear" is only a part of the negative side of opportunity for realization of the potentialities in our lives -- for lives of full dignity and worth.

No life gives full value to him who lives it unless he can render service to his fellows, the full measure of service of which he is capable. The right to serve is one of the greatest of human rights.

That farmers may have that opportunity, it is necessary that for the first time in history we shall no longer have "a third of a nation ill fed." Nor do the frontiers of our concern and our opportunities for service stop at our national boundaries.

The unfinished work requires that ways be found by which the farmers of America may use to the full their constantly rising ability to produce, may adjust that production promptly to the fuller satisfaction of human needs, and may know that ways are provided by which that abundance will reach those who need it.

There is another task -- or better, a challenge -- that stretches ahead. Without success in this, any other success on the farm front would be tarnished.

It is that we be able to attain all these things in a constant spirit and attitudes of fairness, justice, service... That we seek for ourselves on the farms only those prices, those conditions, that are a part of and contribute to the success of all who are climbing upward... That we maintain a common front with all our struggling fellows, in the rise toward the realization of the fullness of human life...

That whatever we do may be done in the spirit of the "Good Neighbor" here at home, as well as among the nations of the earth...

Only so can we be true to the leadership we have lost. --- A. W. Manchester, Director, Northeast Division, AAA (Radio Transcription, Station WBZ, Boston, Mass., April 19, 1945, 6:15 a.m.)

TRUCK TIRES FOR LIME AND FERTILIZER HAULERS The ODT Class No. 51 of the Essentiality List of Truck and Bus Motor Vehicle Service has been amended to give trucks hauling fertilizer and phosphate rock a preference rating of "1" during the months of April and May. This action was taken to expedite supplier needs for truck tires during the rush season.

Action was also taken to aid haulers of agricultural liming materials by asking AAA county committees to assist them in identifying their lime hauling business with agriculture and thus obtain greater preference in obtaining tires than would be the case for hauling quarry products other than agricultural lime.

County committees may give a lime hauler a statement which he can present to the OPA board and which will show he "is engaged in the hauling of agricultural liming materials in such volume as to warrant receiving special consideration for tires which are needed on the truck he uses for hauling the agricultural liming materials."

EGG OUTPUT AROUND 1945 GOAL LEVEL Farm egg production for the first quarter of 1945 ran 7 percent below the same period last year. This is pretty much in line with the 1945 egg goal which calls for 9 percent less eggs this year than in 1944. Most of the decrease took place in January and February. Egg output during March was only 4 percent below the record March production a year ago, but still 38 percent more than the 10-year March average.

1943-44 FARM CONSTRUCTION APPLICATIONS SUMMARIZED State committees in the Northeast Region recommended for WPB approval, 2451 L-41 farm construction applications in 1943 and 2370 in 1944. The estimated cost of construction recommended was \$6,673,112 and \$6,814,041 respectively.

State and Regional totals are shown below:

States	1943		1944	
	No.	Estimated Cost	No.	Estimated Cost
Conn.	195	\$591,228	177	\$757,660
Maine	134	471,661	79	229,920
Mass.	174	561,263	189	816,658
N. Hampshire	70	168,850	43	119,919
N. Jersey	357	987,883	301	967,192
New York	653	1,483,128	707	1,938,801
Penna.	722	2,032,339	693	1,461,750
R. I.	17	59,312	9	54,795
Vermont	129	317,448	172	467,346
N. East	2451	6,673,112	2370	6,814,041
E. Central	3191	5,291,575	2961	4,564,938
Southern	3688	5,952,264	3439	5,306,891
N. Central	14,727	21,122,307	11,108	18,089,125
Western	6541	14,398,251	5352	13,751,627
U.S. Total	30,598	\$53,437,509	25,230	\$48,526,622

MACHINERY QUOTA CUT Controlled materials allocated for farm machinery in the second quarter of 1945 have been cut to 195,000 tons, WPB has announced. About 256,000 tons were used in the first quarter of this year, and 279,000 tons in the second quarter of 1944.

The cut means less new farm machinery, since the allotment for repair parts remains the same. The cut was caused by the fast pace of the war in Europe. WPB indicated that an increase in allocations could be expected after V-E Day.

Machinery production is now 12.2 percent behind schedule, compared with about 25 percent last October. Wheel tractors are reported 3 percent behind schedules; attachments, 4 percent behind; and other equipment, 20 percent behind.

SPB REVISES REGIONAL BOUNDARIES Pennsylvania has been placed in Region III of the U.S. Treasury, Procurement Division, Office of Surplus Property, according to Surplus Property Board Regulation 1, Order 2. Formerly, the State was in Region II along with New York and New Jersey.

This revision in regional boundaries means that in connection with surplus disposal programs the Pennsylvania State Committee will work with the Washington, D.C. Regional Office of Treasury Procurement, instead of the New York City office, and with William H. Evans, liaison officer of the East Central AAA Regional Office, instead of with H. W. Peabody, liaison officer for the Northeast Region.

CONNECTICUT POINTS UP Plans for the tenth consecutive Agricultural Conservation Program are underway in Connecticut. According to the Connecticut AAA "Informer," a new newsletter to counties put out by the State office, "farmers, extension men, statisticians, experts, highbrows, and lowbrows will be asked for their opinions, suggestions, and desires in the formation of the 1946 program.

"These innumerable, diverse ideas, plans, and schemes will be chewed over, ground up, mixed together, and sifted. The final product will not be recognized as the identical thing that any one individual or group actually threw into the hopper."

The "Informer" continued, "it will not be greatly different from past programs but it will be changed. It will have certain new kinks and details. Farmers will say as ever, 'The smart boys in Washington who couldn't tell a pig from a piece of pig iron must have concocted this.' The field workers will ask, 'Why do they always have to keep changing the regulations? Why do we have so much paper work?' The answers to these questions could fill volumes. To sum it up in a few words, it's the working of the democratic process.

"So let's not overlook the fact that the little bit which you and I can toss into the hopper is in there; that it will have an effect on the final result in direct proportion to the amount and quality which we put in. It is a farm program, but above all it must be for the national good. It cannot be written by farmers alone, nor by brass hats, nor by experts, nor by any one group. All will have a part. It will come out a mixture, sifted through this democratic process. Be sure your bit gets into the mixing bowl."

LANCASTER OFF-HIGHWAY A test plan in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, which GASOLINE PLAN NATIONWIDE has resulted in a reduction in farm and other non-highway issuance of gasoline rations by an estimated 28 percent, will be made nation-wide beginning May 1, Price Administrator Chester Bowles announced on April 13.

The Lancaster plan provides that delivery records be maintained to account for every non-highway purchase of gasoline with "E" or "R" coupons. Formerly, a person was given his individual allotment of "E" (good for one gallon) and "R" (good for five gallons) coupons, and no record was kept of how many of these he used.

A delivery record (OPA Form R-585, Rev.) will be issued to each non-highway gasoline consumer who is issued "E" and "R" coupons on and after May 1. The "E" and "R" coupons each consumer receives will be noted on the form by the local War Price and Rationing Board. Each purchase the consumer pays for with "E" or "R" coupons will be entered on the record by the supplier.

Thus the delivery record, presented when the consumer applies for his next ration, will enable the board to tell at a glance how much gasoline the consumer has bought during the ration period, and how much remains in his ration. If a surplus is outstanding at the end of a ration period it will be deducted from the allocation for the next rationing period. "Under the Lancaster Plan," Mr. Bowles said, "we found that non-highway users used more care in conserving their coupons, and local boards were more careful in issuing rations."

JONES FAVORS FOOD AND
AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION

Declaring himself wholeheartedly in favor of the United States joining with other nations in carrying forward the friendly relationship and cementing the principles laid down at the United Nations Conference on Food and Agriculture held at Hot Springs, Va., in May 1945, Marvin Jones, War Food Administrator, in a statement before the House Foreign Affairs Committee said:

"The central purpose of the proposed organization is mutual helpfulness . . . if we work together we can all help each nation to help itself. This is not a visionary dream that needs to disappear in thin air when measured against the cold facts of the world's resources and man's ability to use those resources. It is an achievable objective if the nations of the world can work together in peace as they have in war. For the first time in all the history of the world, there are now available the means and technical skill to provide enough food to meet the nutritional needs of all people in all lands if they devote themselves and their energies to that purpose. But if that goal is to be reached peace must prevail; a spirit of cooperation among nations must be shown in deed as well as in word; and there must be an organization for the exchange of information on food and agriculture and for the promotion of the economic and social betterment of each nation and, in turn, of all nations.

" . . . In the past, the paradox of surpluses in the midst of malnutrition and hunger -- in our own country as well as in other areas of the world -- has never actually been a surplus of food, when viewed in the light of human needs, but rather bad distribution and lack of purchasing power. The aim of the FAO is to help iron the kinks out of that problem and thereby help remove the hunger pangs from the stomachs of mankind. If the lessons of history mean anything to us we should know that there can be no lasting peace on earth and good will among men so long as large masses of people are ill fed and ill clad . . .

"I don't think we need to worry about the U. S. farmer's ability to produce on a big scale in the years ahead. But the big question is: Will there be a good market for all of his output? The key to that problem will be the progress that is made in the field of distribution and the extent to which purchasing power is maintained or increased both in this country and abroad. And, of course, prerequisite to all of this is the maintenance of peace . . .

"This organization is not an administrative body; it is a clearing house, so to speak, for ideas on better ways of doing things in agriculture. And perhaps most important of all, it sets up the machinery for friendly consultation in working out national and international rural problems. . . . I don't see personally how the people of this Nation can afford to forfeit this opportunity to join hands with the people of the other lands in this great cause . . .

"I think it would be fine if FAO could become the first functional organization for world security and betterment to go into operation in this war period . . . It is my personal belief that the United States would not only strengthen its own position but would be taking a definite step toward world security and betterment by becoming a member of the Food and Agriculture Organization."

MATURITY NOTICE FOR
1944 POTATO LOANS

All 1944 Irish Potato Loans mature on April 30, 1945. If they have not already done so, county committees should immediately notify each borrower having an outstanding loan of such maturity date.

U.S.D.A. RE-EMPLOYS More than 1,000 returned war veterans had been restored
OVER 1000 VETERANS to duty in the U. S. Department of Agriculture by April
1, and re-employment of returning military personnel is
at the rate of 125 per month, according to a recent tabulation by the Department's
Office of Personnel.

Under the joint policy approved by both the Secretary of Agriculture and the War Food Administrator, not only are legal requirements in the re-employment of veterans being followed, but where the veteran is qualified he may even be restored to a position of higher grade and salary than he held before entering the service.

In 1940 shortly after the Selective and Training Act was passed, a survey of Department employees showed 23,000 between the ages of 18 and 35 in both Washington and field offices. The most recent tabulation showed 16,568 Agriculture employees in the various branches of the armed forces.

Despite the fact that the Department of Agriculture is staffed largely by scientists and technicians in the higher grades, comparatively few of its employees have been deferred because of occupation. On April 1 only 250 men below the age of 30, excluding those in 4-F and 1 A-L, were still held in the occupational deferred status. These included both those in Washington and in the field service.

HOG SUPPORT PRICE Increase in the hog support price and a larger 1945 fall
RAISED: LARGER FALL pig production goal, planned to insure the largest
PIG GOAL ANNOUNCED practicable production and marketing of pork products
have been announced by War Food Administrator Jones.

The National fall pig goal has been set at 37 million head, 18 percent more than the number raised last fall. The hog support price has been increased from the present \$12.50 to \$13.00 a hundredweight, Chicago basis, for good and choice butcher hogs, all weights up to 270 pounds. The new support price will become effective immediately and continue to September 1, 1946 -- through the period when 1945 fall pigs will be marketed.

At the same time, Price Administrator Bowles announced there would be no reduction before September 1, 1946, in the ceiling prices for live hogs from the present levels of \$14.75 a hundredweight, Chicago basis, for butchers and \$14.00 for sows.

MILK PRODUCTION The country's milk cows and dairymen are hitting a
SPURTS TO NEW RECORD record-breaking pace this year to meet the huge wartime
demands for milk and dairy products. U. S. milk output
for the first three months of 1945 totaled nearly 27.5 billion pounds, nearly half a billion pounds above the previous record production for that period.

Another new peak was reached during March when mild weather and early growth of grass helped push milk production 18 percent above the previous month and three percent above March 1944. To help farmers maintain this output, WFA has continued the winter rates for dairy production payments through April.

FEED SUPPLIES
WATCHED CAREFULLY

Although the feed situation has been reasonably easy in the past few months, transportation difficulties are now complicating the situation. A careful watch is being maintained on protein meal supplies and distribution by the Feed Management Division of AAA, and distribution to feeders is being facilitated.

Accurate information on the location of supplies is particularly important to assure balanced supplies. Enough must be provided here to keep U. S. production of milk and meat at the maximum. At the same time as much feed as can be spared is needed for livestock food production in European countries.

Through monthly reports received from processors, AAA now has complete information on oilseed production and distribution to States for 1942 and 1944. Likewise, reports on the use of protein meals by feed manufacturers for 1942-44 have been obtained. Reports of both kinds are made currently.

This map of U. S. protein meal distribution and production makes it possible for the Feed Management Division to "spot" supplies. Thus voluntary shipment of about 600 cars of protein feeds was obtained from 81 Middlewestern feed mixers to Eastern mixers immediately after transportation embargoes caused by severe snowstorms last winter were lifted. As a result, Eastern Dairy and broiler production, principally dependent upon feed from other areas, was maintained without serious shortages.

April 1 stocks of grains on farms -- compared with last year were: Wheat, largest in 18 years, but less than 1944 in Western States; corn, near record at 23 percent larger than 1944 and in good supply in all States; oats, 4 percent greater but below 1944 in some Middlewestern States.

Grains in shorter supply included: barley, down about 6 percent with nearly half of supplies in Minnesota, North and South Dakota; rye, lowest for 6 years, at least half of supply in Nebraska and Dakotas; soybeans, approximately 28 million bushels compared with about 40 million bushels on April 1, 1944.

FOLKS AT HOME GET MOST OF U. S. FOOD United States civilians received about 8 out of every 10 pounds of this Nation's record food supplies in 1944, according to a new tabulation by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. About $1\frac{1}{4}$ pounds out of every 10 went to our armed forces. The remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds went to Lend-Lease and other claimants.

FEEDER CATTLE EXEMPT FROM PRICE CONTROL Ceiling prices on all cattle and calves purchased for feeding have been removed by OPA. This is expected to encourage feeders to buy still more Range cattle for fattening on the new ample grain stocks, especially in the Corn Belt.

FOOD ALLOCATION WORK TRANSFERRED The WFA has transferred functions related to allocation of food among claimant agencies from the CCC to the Office of the Administrator, under the supervision and control of D. A. Fitzgerald, who continues as special advisor to the Administrator. Mr. Fitzgerald will serve as chairman of the Food Requirements and Allocations Committee, performing the duties assigned to the chairman, including responsibilities in connection with the work of the Combined Food Board. He will also serve as Chairman of the Inter-agency Food Importation Committee. The assignments and the transfer of functions are effective immediately.

WAR BOND RESPONSE N. E. Dodd, Chief of AAA, has commended the prompt and
EARNs COMMENDATION generous response by all AAA committeemen and employees
to the Seventh War Loan Drive. Northeast was the first
to report the drive over the top in the State offices. Following is the report
as of April 9, the opening day of the drive:

<u>State</u>	<u>Quotas</u>	<u>Payroll Deductions Plus Pledges</u>	<u>Percent of Quota</u>
Maine	\$ 2,335.35	\$ 6,581.37	282
New Hampshire	1,232.99	2,325.00	189
Vermont	1,438.12	(not reported)	
Massachusetts	1,203.06	7,208.84	599
Rhode Island	555.53	562.56	101
Connecticut	1,296.70	1,087.50	84
New York	5,499.78	3,328.97	61
New Jersey	1,918.72	4,380.17	228
Pennsylvania	8,244.56	8,683.37	105
Total	\$ 23,724.81	\$34,157.78	144
Regional Office	6,634.00	7,164.72	108

INCREASE PRODUCTION OF TRACTOR TIRE CHAINS An increase in production of tire chains for farm tractors is authorized in the 1945-46 quotas of civilian tire chains, announced today by the War Production Board. Under the new quota, chain manufacturers are permitted to produce 120 percent of the farm tractor tire chains shipped by them during the calendar year of 1944.

There can be no changes in the quotas of chains for passenger and commercial vehicles, WPB said, the increase being confined to farm tractor tire chains.

ICC RULES ON USED FIBER EGG CASES The Interstate Commerce Commission has ruled that second-hand, fiber egg cases are not to be used for shipping eggs by rail. Because of damage to eggs in shipping, which delays unloading of cars, the ICC has ruled that eggs now have to be packed either in (1) new standard wooden or fiber board cases or (2) used, standard wooden cases in sound condition. Second-hand fiber egg cases may be used for truck shipments.

Since all available egg cases, both new and used, whether made of wood or fiber, must be given the maximum use, if second-hand fiber egg cases are used for truck shipment to the extent that they are available, the supply of cases is expected to be adequate.

LEND-LEASE TO RUSSIA The U. S. has shipped to the Soviet Union more than 16,250,000 short tons of war materials -- including munitions, war production and other industrial materials and equipment, food and agricultural products -- from October 1941 through February 1945, the Foreign Economic Administration reports.

Foodstuffs supplied for the use of Soviet armies have consisted mostly of grains and cereals, sugar and canned meats. The Russians lost about 40 percent of their best farmlands in the Ukraine during the invasion, and faced a critical problem of maintaining their armies and war workers during the worst months. The USSR is now beginning to reclaim some of this land.

DELIVERIES OF LIME AND SUPER STILL LAGGING Lime and superphosphate deliveries under the 1945 materials program are still lagging considerably behind deliveries which had been made a year ago this time, although some improvement took place during March. Two more companies will start shipping lime in April which will further improve the rate of delivery.

Shown below is a report as of March 31, 1945, with comparisons as of the same date in 1944.

State	Superphosphate(20% equiv.), tons				Liming Material (tons)			
	Orders Forwarded		Amount		Orders Forwarded		Amount	
	To State Office		Delivered		To State Office		Delivered	
	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945	1944	1945
Maine	6,577	2,435	6,135	1,685	60,886	34,146	53,159	19,386
N. H.	5,788	5,788*	5,482	2,442	27,435	16,984	19,067	7,960
Vt.	18,914	15,562	18,333	3,642	90,700	83,319	60,484	49,254
Mass.	11,025	8,782	9,417	3,195	49,111	45,314	33,879	18,721
R. I.	1,486	993	1,486	843	4,764	4,918	4,764	2,646
Conn.	7,705 *	4,106	7,283	609	46,942	39,586	30,152	16,211
N.Y.	69,153 *	40,093#	36,979	8,274	532,246	410,245	254,400	89,853
N.J.	3,128	3,155#	1,952	574	80,761	84,762	56,463	47,772
Penna.	13,428	11,947#	3,061	1,685	339,790	334,092	176,724	41,884
Total	137,204	92,851	90,128	22,949	1,232,635	1,053,366	689,092	293,687

(* Includes purchase order plan; # purchase order plan)

LARGE PLANTING OF TOBACCO IN PROSPECT According to a recent report of the Crop Reporting Board of the USDA another large planting of tobacco is in prospect this year. As of March 1, growers' intentions were to plant 1,782 thousand acres in 1945, an increase of 4.1 percent over the 1944 harvested acreage. If this acreage is planted and harvested, it would be exceeded only by the 1939 acreage, when about two million acres were planted. Indications point to acreage increases for all class of tobacco, the largest being in burley, where an increase of 8% is indicated. Flue-cured would be up 2%, dark fire-cured 2%, dark air-cured 7%, and cigar tobacco 5%. Should the March 1 intended acreage materialize, the 1945 production would be about 4% lower than 1944, and about 7% below the record production in 1939.

Production of tobacco products, particularly cigarettes, is continuing at an exceptionally high level. Supplies of cigarettes for use in this country have declined below the level of last year, but shipments to the armed forces abroad have increased.

Stocks of most types of tobacco are low in relation to the present high rate of consumption, but with the large 1944 crop now in the hands of manufacturers and dealers, stocks at the end of the present season should be larger than a year earlier. Production in 1944 was greater than the estimated 1944-45 season's disappearance, and cigarette manufacturers were permitted to buy more tobacco from the 1944 crop than they used last season.

* * *

---The 1945 pressure canner program calls for 630,000 aluminum canners, 7-14 quart size as compared with 400,000 steel and enamel pressure canners last year. No rationing or other distribution control is in effect.

PRICES FOR VEGETABLES
FOR FREEZING ANNOUNCED

Designated prices on eight vegetables -- asparagus, snap beans, beets, carrots, sweet corn, green peas, lima beans, and spinach -- to be used for freezing in 1945 were announced last week. These prices will be used by OPA as the maximum raw material costs to be reflected in the 1945 ceiling prices of the frozen products. In computing individual ceiling prices, freezers will reflect their actual costs of raw materials, not to exceed the prices designated.

In addition to the eight vegetables named, another group -- including (but not limited to) broccoli, Fordhook lima beans, cauliflower, pumpkin, and squash -- is subject to an increase up to 20 percent over 1942 prices. The prices listed below for the Northeast, represent the value per ton of the kind and quality of raw vegetables used for freezing on a basis comparable to the established State and area average support or designated prices for canning.

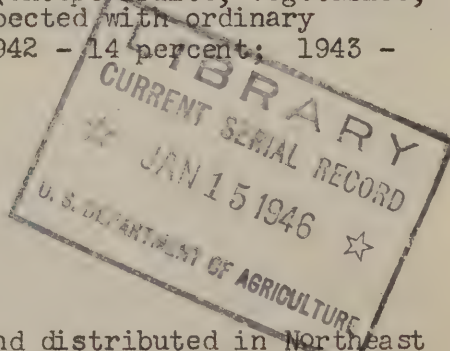
Asparagus - 1943 price plus \$10; beans (green lima other than Fordhook type) - New Jersey, \$128; New York, Pennsylvania, \$115; other Northeast States, \$95; snap beans - New Jersey, \$125.50; New York, \$100; Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut, \$90; beets - New York, New Jersey, \$21; other States, \$19; carrots - New York and New Jersey, \$22; other States, \$20; sweet corn - Maine and New Hampshire, \$28; Vermont, \$22; New York, \$21; Pennsylvania, New Jersey, \$19.50; other Northeast States, \$17.50; green peas - New Jersey, \$111; Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut, \$90.50; Maine, \$88.50; New York, \$88.00; spinach - (price basis: AC - above crown; BC - below crown) - New Jersey and Pennsylvania other than Northern, \$70 BC; New York and Pennsylvania northern counties of Erie, Crawford, Mercer, Venango, Warren, Forest, McKean, Potter, Tioga, Bradford, Susquehanna, and Wayne, \$34 AC; other Northeast States, \$32 AC; miscellaneous vegetables (including Fordhook lima beans, broccoli, cauliflower, pumpkin, squash, and any other vegetable not designated in items 1 - 8 above) - 1942 price plus 20%.

CROP YIELDS AND
THE WEATHER

Farmers don't have to be told that good weather helps crop yields. But how much?

USDA crop reporters say that one of the best measures of the effect of weather on crop yields is the condition of crops at harvesttime. Taking the 35-year (1910-44) average as representing "usual" conditions, their estimates show that recent yields of principal field crops (except fruits, vegetables, and cotton) were this much better than we have expected with ordinary weather: 1940 - 1 percent; 1941 - 7 percent; 1942 - 14 percent; 1943 - 5 percent; and 1944 - 7 percent.

* * *



(AAA - NE - Agriculture in Action issued weekly and distributed in Northeast to State Committeemen, State Executive Assistants, and Farmer Fieldmen)

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War Food Administration
Agricultural Adjustment Agency
Northeast Division
Washington 25, D. C.

April 25, 1945

AGRICULTURE IN ACTION

COMMITTEEMEN IN MASS.
TO MEET ON 1946 PROGRAM

Results achieved under the Agricultural Conservation Program will be described at a series of meetings of State, county, and community committeemen in Massachusetts held for the purpose of making recommendations for the 1946 program. Photographs will illustrate the conservation work done on some farms operated by committeemen and other farmers.

Local committeemen's opinions obtained at these meetings on needs for 1946 will be reviewed at a joint meeting of the State Committee and the Technical Advisory Committee, to be held shortly after May 5 when county meetings will be completed, and a State program developed for recommendation to the Regional Director.

SURPLUS GENERATORS
GO ON SALE

Three thousand M-5 special Army gasoline engine driven electric generator sets, located at Anniston, Alabama, and Sidney, Nebraska, declared surplus by RFC, will go on sale

May 14.

AAA State offices will receive a supply of pamphlets for distribution to county offices, co-ops, dealers, and others. These describe the equipment as to condition and price.

A maximum of fifty generator sets per person may be ordered by a dealer or user through the nearest RFC regional disposal office.

Catalogs of other surplus equipment are available at the RFC regional disposal offices and include generators of other types and sizes, electric motors, transformers, internal combustion engines, air motors, pumps, rope, twine, and other miscellaneous equipment.

VERMONT SCHEDULES 1946
PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT MEETINGS

At a series of county meetings scheduled April 26 through May 2, Vermont county and community committeemen will make recommendations for the type of Agricultural Conservation Program they wish to have in 1946. Their opinions will be based on a review of present and probable future production trends in the county, important adjustments likely to be needed, and soil and forest conservation problems. Administrative methods and specific conservation practices will be discussed and recommendations made.

Members of county committees will report "Soil Building Accomplishments" under the program in the county in previous years, and will illustrate results achieved by giving descriptions of the use they have made of it on their own farms and one or two of their neighbors.

Arrangements have been made for different members of the State Committee to attend the several meetings, and attendance of State Office staff members is divided among the Executive Assistant and farmer fieldmen.

Commenting on the need for the meetings, H. W. Soule, Executive Assistant, advised committeemen, "Someone else who is much less acquainted with local conditions will do the planning if you don't."

NEW PROGRAM SEEKS MORE
MEAT FOR CIVILIANS

A comprehensive program aiming to straighten out current problems of meat prices and distribution has been announced by Economic Stabilization Director William

H. Davis.

Several features of the program affect livestock producers directly:

1. Cattle feeding is encouraged by cancelation of the previously announced reduction on July 2 of 50 cents a hundredweight in the overriding price ceiling on live cattle. In addition, a change in the subsidy regulations encourages packers to bid up prices for top-grade cattle.
2. Limitations have been placed on farm slaughter of meat. Farm slaughterers will not be permitted to sell more dressed meat in any 3-month period of this year than in the same period of 1944. They also must register for the sale of dressed meats with their local rationing boards and report their sales, collecting and accounting for red ration points. Farmers who killed no meat for sale in 1944 may, by registering, market up to 400 pounds. Farm slaughter for home consumption is not affected by this program.

Generally, farm slaughterers will receive 1945 quotas on the basis of meat which they sold and for which they turned over ration points to OPA last year. However, because of widespread misunderstanding among farmers of rationing requirements, some exceptions will be made by OPA in assigning 1945 quotas. If a farmer without good reason fails to report his sales and collect red points in the future, his permit to sell meat will be revoked.

Other points in the program are designed mostly to ease any price "squeezes" for slaughterers through increased subsidies and to channel more meat into federally-inspected plants. The Army is permitted to pay above present ceilings for beef and will make greater efforts to obtain meat from smaller plants not now supplying meat to the Government.

None of the actions in the new meat program will increase retail meat ceilings. The main objective is to make more meat available to civilians through legitimate outlets. To help dry up "black" markets, OPA is assigned 500 additional investigators to enforce meat regulations.

INTENTIONS TOP GOALS Indicated combined plantings of three major processing
FOR MAJOR VEGETABLES vegetables -- snap beans, sweet corn, and green peas --
 are above the combined 1945 goals, according to BAE
reports. Tomato planting intentions are not yet available.

Here is the picture on intended plantings for canning and freezing:

Crop	1944 Planted Acreage	1945 Planted Acreage Goal	1945 Intended Plantings
Snap Beans	159,460	156,271	153,500
Sweet Corn	529,980	556,479	553,000
Green Peas	468,790	506,293	523,000
Tomatoes	593,700	653,070	-----

COMMERCE DEPARTMENT TO OVERSEE
SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

The disposal of surplus property suitable for sale direct to consumers has been transferred from Treasury Procurement to the Department of Commerce. Fred M. Vinson, Director of War Mobilization and Re-conversion, said the change had been made by the President at the request of the Treasury Department.

"The transfer," Director Vinson said, "places the sale of surplus consumer goods with a parent agency whose basic functions are closely associated with the commercial and industrial life of the nation and relieves the Treasury of an activity not directly related to its field of responsibility."

Consumer goods sold as surplus include automobiles, trucks, clothing, hardware, farm implements, medical equipment, construction equipment, and various other items. Farmers may check on sales in their localities through county AAA committees.

MOST FARM MACHINES GO
TO U. S. FARMERS

American farmers are getting more than nine-tenths of all the farm machinery manufactured in this country. Latest figures compiled by the Foreign Economic Administration show that only $7\frac{1}{2}$ percent of the total scheduled production of farm machinery during the fiscal year 1944-45 will be exported.

In a letter to Congress, dated April 17, Foreign Economic Administrator Leo T. Crowley explained how the relatively small amount of exported machinery is helping to shorten the war for ourselves and our Allies.

Machinery sent to such areas as Great Britain, Australia, and New Zealand has helped them increase their food production sharply during the war. Part of this food has fed U. S. soldiers and sailors stationed in or near these areas. For example, up to last October, the food received by our armed forces as reverse Lend-Lease from Australia and New Zealand was equal to 16 times the value of farm implements supplied these two countries under Lend-Lease.

Every country to which U. S. farm machinery has been shipped has sent back farm and other commodities important to our war program. Canada, for example, has supplied this nation with large quantities of feed and industrial alcohol.

Since American farmers are having so much difficulty getting machinery, Crowley said the Government is doing everything possible to hold exports to the absolute minimum needed by our Allies.

RAIL TRANSPORT
PROBLEMS

The increase in the number of serviceable boxcars has dropped during the war to 450 each month, compared with an increase of 8,400 a month in 1941.

Refrigerator cars were scrapped at the rate of more than 600 a month last year; the number was 120 per month in 1943. Only 132,000 refrigerator cars were in service January 1, 1945 -- nearly 9,000 less than 2 years earlier.

Loadings of all freight cars were 1 percent greater during January 1945 than 2 years earlier. Boxcar loadings were down 7 percent, but loadings of other types of freight cars were up.

SOYBEAN PRICE Prices for the 1945 soybean crop will be supported
SUPPORTS ANNOUNCED through both loans and purchases. As last year, the
 base support will be \$2.04 per net bushel for green
and yellow soybeans grading U. S. No. 2, with moisture content of 14 percent,
delivered to normal delivery points. Base supports for brown, black, and
mixed soybeans will be 20 cents per bushel less. Premiums and discounts are
provided for variations in moisture content and grade.

Loans will be available through January 31, 1946. Beans eligible for loans
must grade No. 4 or better, have a moisture content of not more than 14 percent,
and must be stored on farms. A storage advance of 7 cents a bushel will be made.

1945 RYE LOANS ANNOUNCED; 1944 Loans on the 1945 rye crop will be made at
WHEAT LOANS MATURE APRIL 30 75 cents a bushel at all points, for rye grad-
 ing No. 2 or better or grading No. 3 solely
on test weight, WFA has announced. Loans will be available until December 31,
1945.

There will be no storage payment this year for rye stored on the farm, but a
deduction of 7 cents per bushel will be made from the basic loan rate on
warehouse-stored rye unless the producer has paid the storage charges through
April 30, 1946.

Farmers have been informed that April 30 is the last day to redeem loans on the
1944 crop of wheat. Loans may be liquidated before that time by payment of the
full amount advanced by the Government plus interest.

In line with WFA's program to assure parity prices to producers, wheat of the
1944 crop under loan May 1 will be purchased by CCC at parity prices less all
carrying charges to the end of the storage year.

MOST FEED WHEAT To reduce the strain on transportation facilities, WFA
ALLOCATIONS STOPPED has announced that, until further notice, no more feed
 wheat will be allocated except to Washington, Oregon,
California, Nevada, Idaho, Arizona, and Utah. Most livestock producing areas
now have ample supplies of feed grains.

Shipments of balances of February and March allocations in all areas will be
completed. Allocations for April were made only for the Pacific area, where
feed wheat sales require less transportation than in-shipment of feed grains
from other areas.

MAYCOCK AND GARMAN Frank Hancock, president of the CCC announced ap-
NAMED OFFICIALS OF CCC pointment of Richard W. Maycock as vice president
 of the Corporation and director of the Office of
Supply, and Cameron G. Garman as treasurer of the Corporation. Mr. Maycock
takes over the work of Lt. Col. Ralph W. Olmstead, who has been recalled to the
Army.

RELIGIOUS LEADERS PLAN
1945 FOOD PROGRAM

The second annual "Miracle of Food Day" will be commemorated in many Pennsylvania churches and synagogues May 5 and 6 in answer to invitations prepared by a committee of ministers, rabbis, and churchmen working under the auspices of the Pennsylvania State Committee of the Agricultural Adjustment Agency.

The committee has prepared suggested sermon outlines to emphasize the need for maximum production on farms and in victory gardens, and stressing the importance of preserving and conserving all possible food. It is important according to the message of the committee to make greater effort now that the war is drawing to a close so that many of the impoverished people of the earth may be brought back to normal living standards. "The practical application of religion to our civic problems calls for the sharing of food within the nation and far beyond our boundaries," said the committee, adding that "The religion of sharing carries with it the responsibility of knowing the latest nutritional discoveries."

The committee of nine is headed by G. D. Batdorf of Harrisburg, who is Bishop of the East District, The Church of the United Brethren in Christ, and President of the Pennsylvania State Council of Churches.

AAA PERFORMANCE AND
ENROLLMENT PROGRESS
REPORTED

A regional summary of State office progress reports under the 1944 and 1945 Agricultural Conservation Programs for the period ending March 21 is given below.

State	Report of Performance		Application for Payment			Farms Enrolled		
	Est. No.	Farms	Est.	Rec'd	Sent	Total	To	
	Farms	Reporting	Total	State	to	1944	Date	
	Part.	Performance	Appl.	Office	GAO	ACP	1945	%
Maine	12,631	9,857	492	315	189	12,976	11,508	88.7
N. H.	6,511	5,728	0			6,511	5,253	80.7
*Vt.	14,539	13,982	47	31		14,713	12,785	86.9
Mass.	10,884	10,884	2,795	2,412	2,318	12,625	9,175	72.7
Conn.	5,384	4,029	0			5,480	4,440	81.0
R. I.	1,018	723	0			1,018	826	81.1
N. Y.	75,265	47,829	1,269	1,187	117	79,559	53,702	67.5
N. J.	12,206	11,152	9,059	7,610	5,994	13,790	11,519	83.5
Pa.	93,576	50,288	7,979	3,870	2,953	100,457	52,138	51.9
Total	232,014	154,472	21,641	15,425	11,571	247,129	161,346	65.3

*As of February 28, 1945

RECENT PRICE ACTIONS
ON VEGETABLES

WFA has extended the period in which snap beans may be packed under the 1944 price support program through April 30, and the period in which canners may offer this pack for sale to WFA to August 31, 1945.

This action makes May 1, 1945, the effective date for 1945 grower support prices for snap beans, as well as for sweet corn, green peas, and tomatoes for canning.

Support prices on these four canning vegetables are available to growers by means of written contracts with certified canners.

CHICK MARKET IMPROVES The market for baby chicks appears to be picking up. A survey by the Department of Agriculture shows that the number of chicks booked on April 1 for later delivery was 39 percent greater than a year earlier. The demand for chicks improved during March, although chick production by commercial hatcheries during the month was 9 percent under March 1944.

POSTWAR FOREIGN TRADE FOR U. S. AGRICULTURE The big stake American farmers have in international trading after the war is described in a new bulletin of the Department of Agriculture committee on postwar programs.

The committee points out that a high level of international trade by this country will be necessary to avoid surpluses of farm products, to keep U. S. workers employed so they can buy farm products on the domestic market, and to obtain a high standard of living in this country.

To stimulate international trade after the war, the committee suggested:

1. Working toward agreements to reduce Government trade barriers and to eliminate trade discrimination.
2. Eliminating as far as possible private trade barriers such as controls exercised by cartels.
3. Drawing up international agreements for the orderly production and disposal of individual commodities.
4. Improving the diets and living standards of low-income groups throughout the world.
5. Supporting measures which aim at world peace and cooperation in all fields, such as was started at Dumbarton Oaks.

Foreign markets are highly important for several major products from American farms. Even under adverse prewar conditions, we exported about 40 percent of our cotton, one-third of our tobacco, nearly one-tenth of our wheat, and large portions of our lard, prunes, raisins, apples, pears, oranges, and rice. The extraordinary demands of wartime have boosted our total exports of farm products.

* * * * *

Since existing surplus disposal programs provide for the issuance of Letters of Certification for surplus Government trucks only, county offices should not issue certifications for any other materials until instructed to do so.

Treasury Procurement has requested its field offices not to honor Letters of Certification which are for surplus material other than trucks, or which are issued by unauthorized agencies. They have reports that in certain cases such letters are being issued by State and county AAA offices for use in procuring surplus farm machinery.

PORK IS DRAWBACK IN Federally-inspected hog slaughter in March was down
U. S. MEAT SUPPLY 52 percent from a year earlier -- a good enough reason
 why farmers should produce at least 18 percent more
pigs this fall than a year ago. The 1945 fall goal is 37 million pigs.

Less pork is the chief bottleneck in the nation's tight meat supply. Actually, farmers are producing more beef, veal, mutton, and lamb. Slaughter of cattle in federally-inspected plants during March was 15 percent above a year earlier; calves up 2 percent; and sheep up 12 percent.

Pork production from total hog slaughter during the first quarter was down 30 percent from a year earlier -- a drop equivalent to more than 1,250 million pounds of pork. However, the pork deficit is partially offset by an increase during the same period of 328 million pounds of beef and veal -- and about 28 million pounds of lamb and mutton.

Lower feed stocks and unfavorable feed price ratios contributed to the decline in hog production last year. Feed stocks this year are expected to be ample to meet the 1945 goal.

FARM LABOR REPORT Exerting every effort to secure the help needed to plant
 1945 war crops, farmers again raised wage rates paid hired
labor to new record highs on April 1. At 335 percent of the 1910-14 average, April 1 farm wage rates average more than 10 percent higher than a year ago. This is the highest the wage rate index has reached in 78 years of record.

April 1 employment of family labor at 7,322,000 persons was approximately 6 percent more than on March 1 and 1 percent less than on April 1, 1944. The number of hired farm workers increased more than 9 percent during March and was about 1 percent less than the number of hired workers employed on April 1, 1944.

* * * * *

Producer ceiling prices that will be established for certified and war approved seed potatoes and for onion sets grown in 1945 will be the same as those now in effect for the 1944 crops, the OPA announced.

* * * * *

The term "packer's selling weight," with reference to domestic cigar filler and binder tobacco, has been re-defined as 88 percent of the green weight of the tobacco being priced, to permit the sales of packed tobacco before the end of the "sweating" period, the OPA announced today.

When the regulation covering cigar filler and binder tobacco was amended last January 30, it was intended that such sales be permitted. Since then, OPA said, a need for clarifying the provision has been noted.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
ON AGRICULTURE

"Deep study and the joint counsel of many points of view have produced a measure which offers great promise of good results....It is a new and untrod path, but . . .an unprecedented condition calls for the trial of new means to rescue agriculture." -- Message to Congress, March 16, 1933.

". . .In a few short months the whole complexion of the agricultural outlook has changed. Money is getting into the hands of the people who need it. This money is paying bills; it is putting men back to work in the cities producing the things that farmers buy, and enabling these men in turn to buy things that farmers produce." -- December 1933.

". . .The Agricultural Adjustment Act became a law. After that took place, and in record time, you and thousands of other farmers took hold. You set up the machinery to control your affairs and you put the new law to work. . .It is a good omen for Government, for business, for bankers, and for the city dwellers that the Nation's farmers are becoming articulate and that they know whereof they speak." -- Statement to farmers gathered on White House lawn, May 1935.

"The farm program is a splendid example of what 6 million American families can do when they have the will and the leadership to do it. . . .I am happy in the thought that American farmers have gone a long way along the road to economic and social justice, even though they have not reached that goal. In the spirit of progressive action that has animated and now animates these American farm families, all of us. . . .can face with confidence whatever difficulties the future may hold." -- Radio address in 1940.

"Food is as important as any other weapon in the successful prosecution of the war. It will be equally important in rehabilitation and relief in the liberated areas, and in the shaping of the peace that is to come." -- Message to Congress, October 31, 1943.

"The efforts of this Administration have consistently been directed at this double target of raising as much food as possible without placing too great a burden on the American housewife in her efforts to feed her family. . . .Another fact which is often overlooked by the critics of our acreage adjustment programs is that more acres were put into soil-improving crops and legumes and that many conservation practices were instituted -- such as terracing, cover cropping, and contour farming -- which actually improved the soil so much that although less acreage was in production more food per acre was produced. In fact the great improvement in our soil which resulted from our agricultural program has made possible the record food production of recent years." -- Message to Congress, October 31, 1943.

* * * * *

(AAA - NE - Agriculture in Action issued weekly and distributed in Northeast to State Committeemen, State Executive Assistants, and Farmer Fieldmen)

A. W. Manchester
Director, Northeast Region
Radio Transcription
Station WBZ, Boston, Mass.
April 26, 1945

FOOD QUESTIONS FIND ANSWERS

The farm and food situation always involves a lot of worries and doubts about the future. It's been that way as long as I can remember. I suppose it always will. It's in the nature of farming.

This is a progress report on a few of the questions that have loomed large in the last few months.

First -- In regard to potatoes. A couple of months ago there were two serious questions. Were we going to have another potato famine? And were we at the same time going to be unable to get all the potatoes way up in the tip of Maine shipped out?

Were we going to have people hungry for potatoes down in the cities and potatoes that couldn't be marketed up there?

That problem seems happily solved. The railroads made superhuman efforts, the shippers pushed the grading and loading, and the consumers have or will have the potatoes.

It looks like a nice balancing out -- enough potatoes for consumers, and no surplus of good potatoes.

Nobody, nowadays, wants to buy low-grade potatoes. The little ones that were graded out of the Maine crop accumulated up there. There weren't many buyers for No. 2's. Recently, after it became clear that they wouldn't be needed for food, the War Food Administration started a program to get them converted into starch, for which there is a pressing demand.

The conversion, by last reports, is moving rapidly and in a few weeks those "seconds" will be airplane fabric -- or a part of it -- or some other of the essential products potato starch gets into. Potatoes are surely versatile. If they aren't good enough to eat -- you use them to swat the Japs with.

This year there has been a lot of doubt and argument about eggs. The questions over the past few months have ranged all the way from -- were we going to have so many eggs this spring that we couldn't find a place to store them, like last year, or were we going to be short of eggs this fall?

The first half of that pair of questions is pretty well answered. We have eaten quite a few of the hens that laid the golden eggs. We now have about eight percent less hens than last year.

At the same time we consumers are eating eggs as never before. When you can't get meat -- you take eggs.

What hens we have are laying nobly. The rate of lay per hen in March was the highest ever recorded for the country. But, still, total production was down a little -- four percent from last year -- but still thirty-eight percent above average.

In spite of this production, there weren't enough eggs left, after we consumers and the Army and the rest got through buying, to fill storage space at the rate we ought to be filling it at this time of year.

That leaves decidedly open the question of whether we are going to have a rather tight situation next fall or winter when hens slow up in laying and we have to depend partly on eggs from storage. We shall have to wait for the answer to that one.

The early hatches of chicks have been lighter this year than last. There were eleven percent less chicks on farms April 1. That's the figure for the whole country. There were only four percent less in the Northeast.

We are going to need those chicks -- all we can get this year. Shall we succeed in catching up later? That's anybody's guess, but there is quite a lot of evidence -- requests for building permits and the like -- that indicate we are likely to start a lot of chicks from now on, at least in this part of the country. If we do, it won't have much effect on the supply of eggs next fall. Late pullets won't lay in time. But we can use the meat, if we don't need the eggs, later.

As to milk, folks in the "know" have been predicting for quite a while that we would have record-breaking production during the spring flush. It's turning out according to predictions. The country's twenty-six million cows yielded about three hundred million pounds more milk in March than the year before.

War Food Administration people have been worrying that a good deal of skim milk might be wasted during the flush period.

We always used to waste some every spring. A lot of milk handlers would skim off the cream and use that but they wouldn't have any equipment with which to manufacture the skim milk into usable products. So they would let it run into the sewer.

This year all sorts of efforts are being made to prevent that. We don't want good food wasted. It probably won't be possible to stop every little leak, but it's a fair guess that in spite of the biggest seasonal flush of all time, the waste will be cut to the least of any modern year.

The vegetable grower always faces one question. Will a little overplanting, a specially good season, or a few hot days suddenly create a flooded vegetable market and "give-away" prices?

It isn't possible, always, to prevent the gluts. The weather still has its way.

But it is possible, frequently, to make some better use of the surplus than just dumping it on an already overloaded market. Both State and Federal agencies have been working on this problem. This year, War Food Administration is trying to build on its past experience and do a better job with vegetable gluts than ever before. Volunteer committees are now being organized in each major vegetable area to warn of any impending surpluses early enough so that action will be possible, and to advise as to the best method of handling the vegetables for which there is no market.

It's hoped to get better utilization of the food that is produced and at the same time to protect the grower against the worst of the losses that could come from market gluts.

